

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-05 PM-04 FEA-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05

OES-03 DODE-00 SS-15 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 ERDA-05

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APPROVED BY 9/4/75 X20333

ACDA/IR:DTHOMPSON

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EUR/WE:WHMARSH

EUR/NE:SWWORREL

EA/ANP:MAGMICHAUD

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R 060110Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 212321

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E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: PARM, PFOR, NZ, XP

SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR FREE ZONE (SPNFZ)

REF: A. STATE 205865; B. WELLINGTON 2437; C. WELLINGTON
2418; D. STATE 132180

1. NEW ZEALAND-FIJI DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED TO UN
AUGUST 15, 1975 (REFTEL C) SEEKS UNGA ENDORSEMENT OF IDEA
OF ESTABLISHMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPON FREE ZONE IN SOUTH
PACIFIC.

2. EARLIER VERSIONS OF SPNFZ PROPOSAL GIVEN IN CONFIDENCE
TO US, RECENT RADIO INTERVIEW BY PM ROWLING ON SUBJECT
(REFTEL B), AND RESULTS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH GONZ (REFTEL
A) INDICATE GONZ MAY INTEND SPNFZ EVENTUALLY TO COVER
HIGH SEAS AND TO RESTRICT TRANSIT OF TERRITORIAL WATERS
AND PORT CALLS, ALL OF WHICH WOULD CAUSE SERIOUS PROBLEMS
FOR US AND RAISE QUESTION OF ACCEPTABILITY OF ENTIRE
SPNFZ CONCEPT. US CONCERNS ARE SPELLED OUT IN PARAS 4
AND 5 OF REFTEL D.

3. WE HAVE TOLD GONZ THAT WE PREFER THAT THEIR DRAFT
RESOLUTION BE REVISED TO CALL FOR STUDY OF IDEA OF SPNFZ,
BUT HAVE NOT PROMISED SUPPORT EVEN IF RESOLUTION REVISED.
IN VIEW OF POTENTIAL PROBLEMS IN SPNFZ CONCEPT AND GONZ

REFUSAL TO ALTER TEXT OF RESOLUTION, USG IS NOW
CONSIDERING ITS TACTICAL APPROACH TO DRAFT RESOLUTION
IN UNGA.

4. ACTION POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO SOUND OUT FRENCH AND
UK GOVERNMENTS ON THIS ISSUE, EXPLAINING US CONCERN
OVER IMPLICATIONS OF GONZ CONCEPT FOR EXISTING US
SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS AND FOR FREEDOM OF SEA RIGHTS,
OUTLINING US VIEWS ON GONZ PROPOSAL, AND SEEKING HOST
GOVERNMENT VIEWS ON SPNFZ CONCEPT AND GONZ RESOLUTION.

5. USUN MAY AT ITS DISCRETION MAKE INQUIRIES WITH
FRENCH AND UK DELEGATIONS ON SPNFZ ISSUE.
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6. FYI. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY COUNSELOR MCKEOWN INFORMED
DEPARTMENT SEPTEMBER 3 THAT AUSTRALIAN UN DELEGATION
HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO VOTE FOR NZ-FIJI RESOLUTION BUT
NOT TO CO-SPONSOR, SPEAK IN FAVOR, OR LOBBY IN SUPPORT
OF RESOLUTION. IF ASKED, AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION
INSTRUCTED TO SAY ONLY THAT AUSTRALIA DOES NOT OPPOSE
IDEA OF NZ-FIJI RESOLUTION. ROBINSON

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHES SUVA, PORT MORESBY.

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